isers, after meeting the full requirements of bottling at the LPG Bottling Plant at Barauni;

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Backlog in supply of LPG refills had developed in recent months in several parts of the country including Bihar, owing to movement problems caused by the recent floods, reduced bulk product availability and other operational constraints. The situation has since improved in Bihar with increased LPG supplies while normal supplies have been restored at Ranchi.

Sick Industries in Rajasthan

156. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of small scale and medium scale industries which now exist in the State of Rajasthan;

(b) the number of industries declared sick by Government and what is the percentage that it bears to the total number of such industries;

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to revive such sick industries; and

(d) which sick industries are getting financial assistance under Margin Money Scheme and what is the total amount given to them so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) According to the data furnished by the Reserve Bank of India, the total number of small scale units having borrowing accounts with scheduled commercial banks as at the end of December, 1985 in the State of Rajasthan was 69244. Out of this, the number of sick SSI units as on the same date was reported to be 5964, representing about 8.6 per cent of the total number of SSI units having borrowing accounts in the State of Rajasthan. The Reserve Bank of India do not furnish State-wise data of medium scale industrial units.

(c) A number of measures have been taken by the Government towards rehabilitation of sick units in the small scale sector. The Reserve Bank of India have issued guidelines to the banks indicating parameters within which banks could grant reliefs/concessions for rehabilitation of potentially viable sick units in the small scale sector without reference to RBI. The RBI has also indicated warning signals which the financial institutions have to look for detecting incipient sickness in the small scale sector. A comprehensive package of reliefs and concessions which can be extended to potentially viable sick units under rehabilitation has also been drawn up by the Reserve Bank of India.

The Small Industries Development Fund set up by the Industrial Development Bank of India in May, 1986 also provides for rehabilitation assistance to sick SSI units financed by commercial banks, State Financial corporations and State Small Industries Development Corporations. Financial assistance is also available to potentially viable sick SSI units in the small scale sector from the National Equity Fund set up in August, 1987 in the Industrial Development Bank of India.

In addition, Government have enacted comprehensive legislation, namely "The Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985" which provides for setting up of a quasi-judicial body designated as the 'Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction' (BIFR) to deal with the problems of sick industrial companies, falling under its purview, in an effective manner. The BIFR has become operational with effect from 15th May, 1987.

(d) Government of India introduced a Margin Money Scheme with a view to supplementing the efforts of

the State Governments in reducing the incidence of sickness in the small scale sector. The Scheme was put into operation from the year 1983-84 onwards. The amounts sanctioned and released by the Central Government during the years 1983-84 and 1984-85 were Rs. 86.00 lakhs and Rs. 51.90 lakhs respectively. As the Scheme was under review, only an amount of Rs. 5 lakhs was released in the year 1985-86. The Scheme has been reviewed and the terms and conditions have since been considerably liberalised.

Oil Exploration

157. SHRI JERLIE E. TARIANG: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of various agencies engaged in oil exploration and production;

(b) whether Government have issued directions to these agencies to increase oil production to achieve self-sufficiency in oil; and

(c) if so, the achievements made so far by these agencies in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Oil and Natural Gas Commission and Oil India Limited.

(b) Attainment of self-sufficiency is one of the prime objectives of these companies.

(c) Crude production during 1986-87 was 30.5 million tonnes, indicating self-sufficiency of 66.3 per cent as against 32.6 per cent in 1980-81

Power supplied by West Bengal State Electricity Board

158. SHRI M. A. BABY:
SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) how much power supply was received by the Central Electricity Authority from the West Bengal State Electricity Board till the end of September, 1987;

(b) the details of the areas to which such power was supplied by the CEA; and

(c) whether the supply has since been stopped or is still continuing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) to (c) The Central Electricity Authority is not directly involved in inter-system transactions. The Regional Load Despatch Centre of the Eastern Regional Electricity Board is supervising and monitoring the inter-connected operation of the Regional grid and inter-system exchanges. Wherever there is a surplus of power in any of the power systems, the same is transferred to the neighbouring deficit States for optimum utilisation of the available power. During April, 1987 to September, 1987, West Bengal have supplied surplus power to the extent of 262.3 MU to the neighbouring power systems of Bihar, DVC and Orissa.

The practice of availing surplus power whenever available, by neighbouring deficit systems is still being continued.

Release of Power by West Bengal

159. SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI:

SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union Govern-